

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
 RECEIVED AUG 13 1978  
 DATE ENTERED SEP 27 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **Mount Washington Hotel** \*\*

AND/OR COMMON

**Mount Washington Hotel**

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

.6 mile east of Route 302 1.4 miles southeast of its  
intersection of Cherry Hill Road

CITY, TOWN

**Crawford's Purchase**

— VICINITY OF

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

**New Hampshire**

CODE

**33**

**Second**

COUNTY

**Coos**

CODE

**007**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

**Institutional Investors Trust**

STREET & NUMBER

**One Boston Place**

CITY, TOWN

**Boston**

— VICINITY OF

STATE

**Massachusetts**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

**Coos County Registry of Deeds  
Coos County Courthouse**

STREET & NUMBER

**PO Box 286  
148 Main Street**

CITY, TOWN

**Lancaster**

STATE

**New Hampshire**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

**New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Plan**

DATE

**1970**

— FEDERAL  STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

**NH State Historic Preservation Office**

CITY, TOWN

**Concord**

STATE

**New Hampshire**

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Set on a broad plateau between several mountain ranges, the Mount Washington Hotel presents a spectacular sight. Opened in 1902 by Joseph Stickney, a wealthy New York industrialist, the Mount Washington was, and still is, the grandest and largest of the North Country hostelrys. The hotel, designed in the Spanish Renaissance style, is shaped like a capital "Y" (the third wing having been added within three years of construction). Between the two five-story (114 feet) octagonal towers is the main portion of the building. Two wings extend from the north tower to the northeast and northwest. One wing extends from the south tower in line with the main portion of the building. The greatest length is over 800 feet. The height of the central portion from the basement to the roof garden is 70 feet. There is an extravagantly wide porch all the way around the hotel. The building is constructed of stone, steel, brick, lumber, and plaster. The foundation was constructed by skilled Italian artisans, imported for that purpose, from native gray granite quarried in the area. A light colored cement (stucco) was laid on the steel network, above the granite, to give the impression of masonry. The roof was red, imitative of Spanish tile. For insurance purposes the hotel is a wooden structure and, as such, is the largest in New England.

The entrance to the large, two-story assembly hall was by a semicircular porte-cochere on the west side. The assembly hall was decorated in French Renaissance style with a large field stone fireplace and double colonades the length of the room. Off the main entrance hall is a sun room with a domed ceiling. The ceiling is formed by Ionic columns with a fireplace surrounded by yellow and brown tiles as one of the focal points of the room. From the north foyer opens a banquet hall, corridors to the east and west wings, offices, the main staircase, and an elevator. The banquet room is octagonal, of Italian Renaissance style, with a groined ceiling. The fireplace was constructed from Paranozzo marble highlighted by a carved cream woodwork mirror.

The dining room in the east wing is also octagonal, measuring 84.8 feet by 84.8 feet, (it has since been enlarged). It is freely adapted from the style of the Elizabethan era. The ceiling is higher in the center than at the sides, allowing for side lights and free ventilation. The musicians' galleries are formed by wrought iron grill work.

Leading from the south foyer are card and writing rooms, parlors, and the ball room. The ball room was designed in the Italian Renaissance style. Series of engaged Corinthian columns separate the main floor from a series of bays with lower ceilings. There is a raised stage at one end of the room with a large plate glass window at the rear giving the guests an excellent view of Crawford Notch.

The remainder of the upper floors consist mainly of guest rooms with some suites. In the basement one finds indoor sports facilities and service areas. These include the billiard room, the gentlemen's cafe, an indoor swimming pool, bowling alleys, squash courts, the boot and gun room, the children's play room, the baggage rooms, the barber shop, and several lavatories. The kitchen is in the "V" formed by the east and west wings with direct access to all dining rooms. At the apex of the "V" was a fern garden.

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The architect of the Mount Washington Hotel was Charles Alling Gifford of New York. W.G. Phillips supervised construction by C.M. Russell and Company of Newark, New Jersey. The stonework contractor was E.O. Getchell of Plymouth, New Hampshire.

Since the addition of the third wing, the hotel has remained essentially unchanged with some minor alterations. The natural color stucco is now white, blinds and shutters have been removed, and pools and bathrooms have been modernized. Original furnishings have been replaced except for Caroline Stickney's bed which remains in storage at the hotel.

At the death of Caroline Foster Stickney in 1932 (she had become Princess Clarigny de Lucinge upon her marriage to Prince Lucinge of France in 1908), operation of the hotel was continued by her nephew, Foster Reynolds. The Mount Washington was then sold to a Boston syndicate in 1944. After that time the 10,000 acres and hotel at Bretton Woods were able to survive by hosting professional conferences as well as by maintaining a private clientele. The first conference hosted there was the Bretton Woods Conference sponsored by the United Nations to deal with post-World War II economic problems. This meeting, held in the summer of 1944, led to the establishment of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	natural features
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

1900-1902

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Charles Alling Gifford

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mount Washington Hotel was the most luxurious of all resorts in the North Country and was built on such a grand scale that it remains the largest wooden building in all of New England. Its grandeur and detail make it an architectural gem. In addition, it is one of the few remaining resort hotels of this era which continues in operation. Of all New Hampshire's White Mountain retreats it is the most spectacular.

The hotel's exquisite natural setting is of fundamental importance, as well. The Bretton Woods property is nestled on a secluded and breathtaking plateau, surrounded on the southeast by the lofty Presidential Range, on the northwest by the Dartmouth Range, and on the southwest by the Rosebrook Range. Except for the area adjacent to the hotel, the land has been preserved as a wilderness. Mount Washington, the highest peak in the northeast United States, forms a dramatic backdrop to the hotel and the entire property. The area's natural beauty and exquisite landscape features constitute the hotel's very unique significance. This extraordinary siting is vitally related to the significance of this spectacular hotel and creates an outstanding blend of built and natural splendor.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"The Gilded Age of White Mountain Hotels," Dan Hoik, Yankee, Vol. 41, No 8, Aug. 1977

"The Life and Times of Bretton Woods", brochure, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire.

Sylvester, John E., Jr., "Proposal, National Historic Place, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire," Unpublished report, Mountain Management Company.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 10

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 | 30.5 | 200 | 49 | 03 | 22.5  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
 C

Mount Washington Quadrangle  
 15' series

B 18 | 31 | 200 | 49 | 03 | 22.5  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Ron King, Director of Land Protection

ORGANIZATION Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests DATE August 30, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 5 South State Street TELEPHONE 603-224-9945

CITY OR TOWN Concord, STATE New Hampshire

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL   
 JFT 8-21-78

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Commissioner, Dept. of Resources & Economic Development DATE May 23, 1978  
 NH State Historic Preservation Officer

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE 9/27/78	DATE 9/25/78

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The boundary of the Mt. Washington Hotel property is as indicated on the attached map by the dashed line surrounding the structure.

# The National Register of Historic Places

## Mount Washington Hotel



